

Mobile Phone Use ‘In Class’ Policy – Years 8-12

At Avenues College we believe that all staff, students and visitors have the right to a safe, inclusive and supportive learning environment. We foster positive relationships and partnerships that complement our College values of *Courage, Creativity, Resilience and Respect*.

Avenues College acknowledges that mobile phones have become a part of everyday life and parents/ carers may provide their child with a mobile phone for use while travelling to and from the College and during recess and lunchtime.

However, teachers and students have the right to teach and to learn at the College without the interruption of the inappropriate use of mobile phones.

Mobile phones are not permitted to be used in the classroom and must be turned off and stored securely either in:

- student bags at the start of the College day and not taken out for use during any lessons
- or
- a container provided by the teacher at the beginning of each lesson.

The use of mobile phones during lesson times is not in keeping with the College’s core value of *Respect* as it is disrespectful to the teacher who is teaching and disrespectful to the other students and their learning.

Students may only use mobile phones before and after school or at recess or lunchtime unless teachers request the use of mobile phones to complete specific tasks related to their learning.

Mobile phones must be used appropriately at these times. Photos and/or videos are not to be taken of other students or staff members without their permission. It is a criminal offence to use mobile phones or related electronic devices to offend, harass or bully another person. The College may consider it appropriate to involve SAPOL and provide collected devices for evidence.

If students need to contact their parents/carers, this can be done through Student Services or the Front Office. If parents/carers need to contact their child during the school day, this can also be done through the Front Office or Student Services and a message will be delivered.

Students choosing to bring mobile phones to the College must accept sole responsibility for their care. The College does not take responsibility for accidental loss, theft or damage to the phone. Students are required to have it turned off and stored securely in their bag during the school day.

Consequences of mobile phone use during lesson time include having the phone confiscated and stored by the teacher or in Student Services until the end of the day.

For ongoing instances, the **Avenues College Behaviour Policy** will be implemented, and this could result in suspension of the student for not following reasonable expectations.

This policy is closely aligned to **Avenues College Anti - Bullying and Harassment Policy** and **Cyber-safety, Keeping Children Safe in a Connected World – Guidelines for Schools and Pre-Schools**.